

**From:** vnmh  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 11:23am  
**Subject:** Your Honour,

Your Honour,

In accordance with the Tunney Act, I would like to say the following:  
Microsoft is an illegal monopoly. Bill Gates and Microsoft are trying to get away with what Rockefeller and Standard Oil achieved at the end of the last century in the oil business: a vertical and horizontal monopoly that controls all aspects of the industry and inhibits competition which not only hurts the economy but the public.

In the last twenty years the buzzword in government and the private sector has been deregulation. Fine. That is why Bell Telephone was broken up into AT&T and Sprint and MCI were allowed access to the market. Microsoft makes new operating systems stillborn by threat, coercion and bullying.

Microsoft has shown nothing but contempt for the consumer and government since day one of this case. If the solution pushed by the Ashcroft is set into place, then Microsoft wins and they get to expand their monopoly. When I took economics in college, everything I read said this was bad and this is the reason we have antitrust legislation.

I do not personally begrudge Microsoft a red cent of profit. They produced a product and people buy it. However, if I must buy the product because I am forced to purchase Microsoft programs because other programs which are better will not run on an O/S of my choice, then is this the market place freedom this country is famous for?

Please take the open letter by Dan Kegel seriously as well as Scott Rosenberg's article.

Sincerely,

Marcus Sellers  
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Masters Candidate Biology  
Indiana University of Penna